

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PANAMA 05992 171440Z

53

ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-04 SCA-01 OPR-01 A-01 SY-04 USSS-00

AID-05 NIC-01 DRC-01 /067 W
----- 023355

R 161738Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2048

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 5992

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN, PINS, DR

SUBJ: DOMINICAN GUERRILLAS IN ISOLATION

REFS A. STATE 223940 B. PANAMA 5954

1. THE SEVEN DOMINICAN TERRORISTS CONTINUE TO BE HELD IN ISOLATION AT SANTO TOMAS HOSPITAL (ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE US EMBASSY) UNDER THE CONTROL OF GUARDIA NACIONAL (GN) G2 INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL. NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN MADE BY GOP AS TO IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF GUERRILLAS. ABSENCE FROM PANAMA OF G2 CHIEF, LT.COL. MANUEL NORIEGA, UNTIL NEXT WEEK MAY DELAY DECISION (SEE SEPTTEL OF AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION TODAY WITH FONMIN ON THIS SUBJECT).

2. MEDIA COVERAGE AFTER INITIAL ARRIVAL STORIES HAS BEEN SCANTY. ONLY THE NEWSPAPER CRITICA HAS HAD SUSTAINED COVERAGE, RUNNING IN TWO PARTS THE RESULTS OF AN INTERVIEW WITH THE GUERRILLAS WHICH APPARENTLY WAS MADE OCTOBER 13. A THIRD PART TO THE INTERVIEW PROMISED FOR OCTOBER 16 DID NOT APPEAR.

3. PRESS REPORTS HAVE QUOTED NATIONAL GUARD SPOKESMAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PANAMA 05992 171440Z

THAT GUERRILLAS WOULD BE FREE TO LIVE AND WORK IN PANAMA

AFTER COMPLETING NO ROUTINE PAPERWORK TO GET THEIR RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMITS. THEY WOULD HAVE TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES AS APPROPRIATE TO THEIR CONDITION AS REFUGEES.

4. OVERALL PRESS COVERAGE IN PANAMA HAS BEEN FAIRLY SYMPATHETIC TO GUERRILLAS WITH INITIAL FRONT PAGE STORY OF CRITICA (OCTOBER 10) STRESSING THEIR CONDITION AS TIRED AND EXHAUSTED YOUTHS. ("PLEASE, MISTER JOURNALISTS, LET US REST A LITTLE. WE ARE WORN OUT AFTER 14 DAYS WITHOUT FOOD AND WATER.") ON OCTOBER 14 CRITICA BEGAN ITS INTERVIEW COVERAGE UNDER THE HEADLINE "BALAGUER CAN'T SING OF VICTORY," QUOTING ONE OF THE TERRORISTS, AND SHOWING A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE SCARRED BACK OF ANOTHER WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN TORTURED BY THE DOMINICAN POLICE. GIST OF THE INTERVIEW WAS THAT THE BALAGUER REGIME HAD NO REASON TO BECOME COMPLACENT OVER THE RECENT EVENTS, AS THE ORGANIZATION TO WHICH THE TERRORISTS BELONGED WOULD CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE. THE GUERRILLAS ALSO STRESSED THEIR GOOD TREATMENT OF THE HOSTAGES, CLAIMING THAT THE ONE HOSTAGE WHO ESCAPED COULD EASILY HAVE BEEN SHOT IN THE ATTEMPT.

5. THE ONLY INJURY SUSTAINED BY THE TERRORISTS WAS A GUNSHOT WOUND SELF-INFLICTED ACCIDENTALLY DURING THE SIEGE IN SANTO DOMINGO. THE TERRORIST REPORTEDLY HAS LOST HIS TOE AS THE RESULT OF THE ACCIDENT.

JORDEN
UNQUOTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM, KIDNAPPING, PRESS COMMENTS, EXILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PANAMA05992
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740295-1022
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741042/aaaabjvv.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCCT
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 223940 B. PANAMA 5954
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DOMINICAN GUERILLAS IN ISOLATION
TAGS: PINS, PN, DR, (MENDEZ VARGAS, RADAMES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005